Dear Delegates,

Welcome to Virtual SRMUN Charlotte 2021 and the Security Council (SC). My name is Jasmine Sutherland, and I have the pleasure of serving as your Director for the SC. This will be my first time as a SRMUN Charlotte staff member, but I am no stranger to SRMUN or Model UN. I have previously served as a delegate at three SRMUN Atlanta conferences and have four years of experience with Model United Nations as a member of the dais and a delegate. In May 2017, I graduated from Kennesaw State University with a B.A. in International Affairs and a minor in German Language. I am currently a working professional at a law firm in Atlanta. Our committee's Assistant Director will be Emily Bowen. This will be her fourth time on staff, having served as a Research Assistant for the World Health Organization at SRMUN Atlanta 2018, Assistant Director for the United Nations Children's Fund at SRMUN Atlanta 2019, and Assistant Director for the Peacebuilding Commission at SRMUN Atlanta 2020. Emily is a graduate student at George Mason University's Schar School of Policy and Government, studying International Security with a concentration in Peace Operations.

Established in 1945 under Chapter V of the United Nations (UN) Charter, the SC is one of the six original organs of the UN. There are 15 Member States in the SC. China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States serve as Permanent Members (P5). The remaining 10 members are appointed by the General Assembly for two years terms. The P5 hold the right to veto any draft resolution brought forth by the body, thus leaving the draft resolution null and void. The SC is one of the most powerful organs of the UN. Resolutions passed by the SC are required to be enforced by all UN Member States, as stated in Article 25 of the UN Charter.

In accordance with the nature of the SC, this Council will work with an open agenda for SRMUN Charlotte 2021. Delegates are responsible for identifying pressing topics or situations and to present them to the body for discussion while keeping the theme of "Unity: Coming Together to Address a Changing World" in mind.

The background guide and attached addendum provide an introduction to the committee and workings of the Security Council at SRMUN Charlotte 2021. As we approach the conference, general updates regarding critical situations currently threatening worldwide peace and security will be released to all SC delegates for their review. These updates should be utilized as a foundation for a delegate's independent research as participants are expected to go beyond the topic updates and engage in intellectual inquiry of their own to present to the body two of the most pressing issues affecting their Member State. The position papers for the committee should reflect the complexity of these issues and their externalities. Delegations are expected to submit a position paper and be prepared for a vigorous discussion at the conference.

Position papers should be no longer than two pages in length (single spaced) and demonstrate your Member State's position, policies, and recommendations on each of the two topics of your choosing. For more detailed information about formatting and how to write position papers, delegates can visit srmun.org. ***All position papers MUST be submitted no later than Sunday, March 7, 2021, by 11:59pm EST via the SRMUN website in order to be eligible for Outstanding Position Paper Awards.***

Emily and I are elated to be serving as your dais for the SC. We wish you all the best of luck in your conference preparation and look forward to working with you in the near future. Please feel free to contact Director-General Vanessa DuBoulay, Emily, or myself if you have any questions while preparing for the conference.

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History of the United Nations Security Council

The Security Council (SC) was created as one of the six main organs of the United Nations (UN) with the signing of the UN Charter on June 26, 1945.[1] The SC is the body of the UN that deals exclusively with issues of peace and security, General Assembly membership, and changes to the UN Charter itself.[2] In its duties, the SC has the power to determine what constitutes a threat to peace and security as well as an act of aggression in international, inter-state, and intra-state contexts.[3]

The SC is composed of 15 Member States, with five permanent seats and 10 rotating positions.[4] The five permanent Member States, known as the P-5, consist of the victors of WWII: the United States of America, Russia, China, France, and the United Kingdom.[5] The other 10 non-permanent Member States rotate in a staggered fashion following geographical considerations and sit for a two-year term.[6] The non-permanent Member State seats are divided by the following geographic regions: five for African and Asian regions, one for the Eastern European region, two for the Latin American and Caribbean regions, and two for the Western European region.[7] Ultimately, Member States chosen to serve two-year terms are voted upon for approval in the General Assembly.[8]

Per its mandate, the SC is responsible for the implementation of Chapters VI, VII, VIII, and XII of the UN Charter.[9] Chapter V of the UN Charter outlines the composition, functions, powers, and procedures of the council.[10] Chapter VI of the UN Charter outlines the SC's primary duty: pacific settlement of disputes.[11] Articles 39-43 of Chapter VI of the Charter call on parties in dispute to peacefully resolve their digressions, but allow for the SC to step in on the behalf of the international community if pacific settlement fails.[12] After deeming the existence of an act of aggression or a breach to peace and security, the SC can respond by imposing sanctions or calling for military action under Articles 40-42.[13] The SC has historically applied sanctions towards several Member States in response to disruptions of peace, such as S/RES/1718 (2006) against the Democratic Republic of Korea's (DPRK) proliferation of nuclear weapons.[14] These sanctions against the DPRK fall under Article 41 of the UN Charter, which states that "the [SC] may decide what measures not involving the use of armed force are to be employed to give effect to its decisions, and it may call upon the Members of the United Nations to apply such measures."[15] Further, the SC may apply sanction measures such as "complete or partial interruption of economic relations and of rail, sea, air, postal, telegraphic, radio, and other means of communication, and the severance of diplomatic relations" when needed.[16] Additionally, under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, the SC can deploy military action to settle disputes that cannot be resolved through less aggressive sanctions or peaceful negotiations.[17] When invoking Chapter VII, articles 42-48

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[1] United Nations Security Council, "What is the Security Council?"

[2] United Nations Security Council. "What is the Security Council?" United Nations, https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/what-security-council, (Accessed June 16, 2020).

[3] United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, "Chapter VII: Action with Respect to Threats to the Peace, Breaches of the Peace, and Acts of Aggression," October 24. 1945, https://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/chapter-vii/index.html.

[4] United Nations Security Council, "Members," United Nations, https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/current-members. (Accessed June 16, 2020).

[5] United Nations Security Council, "Members."

[6] United Nations Security Council, "Membership and Elections," *FAQ*, United Nations, https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/faq. (Accessed June 16, 2020).

[7] United Nations Security Council, "Membership and Elections."

[8] United Nations Security Council, "Membership and Elections."

[9] United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, October 24, 1945, https://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/chapter-v/index.html. (Accessed June 18, 2020).

[10] United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, "Chapter V: The Security Council," October 24, 1945, https://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/chapter-v/index.html. (Accessed June 18, 2020)

[11] United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, "Chapter VI: Pacific Settlement of Disputes," October 24, 1945, https://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/chapter-vi/index.html. (Accessed June 18, 2020)

[12] United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, "Chapter VII: Action with Respect to Threats to the Peace, Breaches of the Peace, and Acts of Aggression: Articles 39-43," October 24, 1945, https://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/chapter-vi/index.html. (Accessed June 18, 2020)

[13] United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, "Chapter VII… Article 40-42."

[14] United Nations Security Council, "Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006)," United Nations, https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/sanctions/1718. (Accessed June 18, 2020).

[15] United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, "Chapter VII… Article 41."

[16] United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, "Chapter VII… Article 41."

[17] United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, "Chapter VII… Article 42."

dictate the progression of the measures to be taken prior to and during the planning of military action.[18] One of these measures found in the powers of Articles 42-48 is that which allows the SC to authorize peace operations for the stability of Member States.[19] This can be seen with the UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) following the independence movement and resulting civil war in the region.[20] The SC gave UNMISS the authority to protect civilians, monitor for human rights violations, support humanitarian aid delivery, and help South Sudan implement the ceasefire agreement from the civil war.[21]

Meetings are held by the SC at the call of the President, but the time in between meetings is not to exceed 14 days.[22] Resolutions pass by a majority of nine affirmative votes, including all five of the Permanent Member States.[23] The P-5 have the right to veto any resolution at any given time.[24] In the event a Permanent Member State uses its veto power, the resolution fails to pass regardless of the majority vote.[25] The outcome of each meeting is recorded with the resolution discussed and the vetoes if the resolution failed.[26] All votes, resolutions, and other measures taken by the SC within a single year must be submitted in a report to the General Assembly, providing an overview of the actions taken by the body that year.[27] This report includes actions taken on procedural matters, regional, country, or subject-specific topics, and key issues related to peacekeeping resolutions.[28]

Funding for the SC comes from the Regular Budget of the United Nations.[29] The Regular Budget is upheld through both mandatory and voluntary contributions from all 193 Member States.[30] As stated in Article 17, Clause 2, of the UN Charter, "The expenses of the Organization shall be borne by the Members as apportioned by the General Assembly."[31] While other organs of the UN make recommendations to Member States, the SC alone has the power to make decisions which Member States are obligated to implement [and abide by]."[32] The SC may mandate the use of funds from other organs of the UN in the effort to maintain peace and security within the international community.[33]

The SC held 258 meetings, adopted 52 resolutions, and issued 15 presidential statements in 2019.[34] In addition, the SC dispatched five missions in 2019 to Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea-Bissau, the Sahel (Mali and Burkina Faso), Iraq and Kuwait, Colombia, and Ethiopia and South Sudan.[35] Also, two ground breaking resolutions relating to the protection of civilians were adopted—Resolutions 2474 and 2475. Resolution 2474, urged the search for persons

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[18] United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, "Chapter VII… Articles 42-48."
[19] United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, "Chapter VII… Articles 42-48."
[20] UN Peacekeeping, "UNMISS Peacekeeping." *United Nations,* https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unmiss. (Accessed June 16, 2020)
[21] UN Peacekeeping, "UNMISS Peacekeeping."
[22] United Nations Security Council. "Conduct of Business." *FAQ*, United Nations, https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/faq. (Accessed June 18, 2020).
[23] United Nations Security Council, "Voting System," *Practices, Procedures, and Working Methods,* United Nations, https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/voting-system. (Accessed June 18, 2020).
[24] United Nations Security Council, "Voting System."
[25] United Nations Security Council, "Voting System."
[26] "Meetings and Outcomes," *Security Council - Quick Links*, Dag Hammarskjöld http://research.un.org/en/docs/sc/quick/meetings/, (Accessed July 02, 2020).
[27] "Report of the Security Council to the General Assembly," *UN Documentation: Security Council,* Dag Hammarskjöld Library, https://research.un.org/en/docs/sc/reports#:~:text=The%20Security%20Council%20report%20to,Assembly%20Official %20Records%20(GAOR). (Accessed June 18, 2020).
[28] "Report of the Security Council to the General Assembly," *UN Documentation: Security Council,* Dag Hammarskjöld Library.
[29] Shendruk, Amanda, Laura Hillard, and Diana Roy. "Funding the United Nations." *Council on Foreign Relations*. Council on Foreign Relations, June 8, 2020. https://www.cfr.org/article/funding
[30] Shendruk, Amanda, Laura Hillard, and Diana Roy. "Funding the United Nations." *Council on Foreign Relations*. Council on Foreign Relations.
[31] "Chapter IV - Charter of the United Nations." *United Nations*. United Nations, 1945. https://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/chapter-iv/. (Accessed June 19, 2020)
[32] "Role of the Security Council Peacekeeping." United Nations Peacekeeping. United Nations. https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/role-of-security-council. (Accessed June 17, 2020)
[33] United Nations, *Charter of the United Nations*, "Chapter V: The Security Council," October 24, 1945, https://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/chapter-v/index.html. (Accessed July 18, 2020)
[34] "Highlights of Security Council Practice 2019," United Nations, https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/highlights-2019 (Accessed on June 20, 2020).
[35] Highlights of Security Council Practice 2019," United Nations.

reported missing in areas where armed conflict is present.[36] Resolution 2475, pressed for the protection of all civilians, especially those with disabilities, in armed conflict situations.[37] In another effort, the Council issued a presidential statement (S/PRST/2019/5) expanding and promoting the partnership between the United Nations and the League of Arab States.[38] From January to May 2020, the SC has met a total of 48 times.[39] In this time, 23 resolutions were passed, mostly in relation to situations in Africa and the Middle East.[40]

The SC is an integral part of the United Nations that was founded to hold the "...primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security."[41] In 2020, the SC has focused heavily on the promotion of peace and political stability across Africa, the Middle East, and Eastern Asia.[42] As of May 2020, there are a total of 14 peacekeeping operations led by the Department of Peace Operations, as mandated by the SC.[43] The SC continues to hold consultations with important members of the international community on pressing issues that involve not only the promotion of peace in conflict areas, but also the consideration of the role and safety of peacekeeping personnel, especially women involved in peacekeeping operations.[44]

[36] Security Council, Resolution 2474, S/RES/2474 (2019),undocs.org/en/S/RES/2474(2019) (Accessed June 20, 2020)

[37] Security Council, Resolution 2475, S/RES/2475 (2019),undocs.org/en/S/RES/2475(2019) (Accessed June 20, 2020)

[38] Security Council, Presidential Statement, S/PRST/2019/5 (June 2019), https://undocs.org/en/S/PRST/2019/5 (Accessed June 20, 2020)

[39] "Monthly Highlights Security Council 2020." United Nations Security Council. United Nations, June 2020. https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/monthly-highlights. (Accessed June 20, 2020)

[40] "Resolutions Adopted by the Security Council in 2020 Security Council." United Nations Security Council. United Nations. https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/resolutions-adopted-security-council-2020. (Accessed June 20, 2020)

[41] UN Security Council. Global Policy Reform. https://www.globalpolicy.org/security-council.html. (Accessed June 20, 2020)

[42] "Current Peacekeeping Operations Peacekeeping." United Nations Peacekeeping. United Nations, 2020. https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/current-peacekeeping-operations. (Accessed June 21, 2020)

[43] "Current Peacekeeping Operations Peacekeeping." United Nations Peacekeeping. United Nations, 2020

[44] Security Council, Resolution 2518, S/RES/2518 (2020),https://undocs.org/S/RES/2518(2020). (Accessed June 21, 2020)

Security Council Addendum

(rev. Aug. 2020)

I.   Overview of Agenda

Adoption of Agenda

The United Nations (UN) Security Council (SC, or the Council) annual agenda can be generated from the following five sources: the previous year's agenda, the President of the SC, any UN Member State, the UN Secretary-General, and/or other UN bodies. Regarding the previous year's agenda, the SC may decide to keep certain items on its agenda if more discussion is deemed necessary by the body. For example, a universal yet timeless topic that re-appears on the agenda nearly every year is Women, Peace, and Security.

Additionally, the Office of the SC President plays a crucial role in determining the agenda, as it has the ability to place items on the agenda. For example, in January 2000, the United States of America, which held the Office of the Presidency at the time, placed AIDS as a threat to international security on the agenda.

Furthermore, Article 35 of the UN Charter grants UN Member States the right to refer disputes to the SC. In 1948, India used this mechanism to refer the situation in Kashmir to the SC. Likewise, under Article 99, the UN Secretary-General may bring items to the attention of the SC, as seen when Former Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cueller asked the Council to investigate violations of the Geneva Convention in the Iran-Iraq war of the 1980s.

Finally, other UN bodies may refer items to the SC. The General Assembly, for instance, is afforded this right under Article 11 of the UN Charter. General Assembly Resolution 194 of 1948, for example, requested the SC discuss the demilitarization of Jerusalem.

In preparation of the formal agenda for the year, the President of the SC and the Secretary-General prepare a provisional agenda based on all sources of potential items. The provisional agenda is provided to the members of the SC, who then discuss and adopt the agenda. The SC may choose to discuss or not to discuss any agenda item referred to it by another body or Member State.

How the SRMUN Security Council Will Set the Agenda

SRMUN's SC will operate differently than other committees held at SRMUN conferences. As opposed to providing delegates with pre-selected topics to consider, the SC, in line with how the real committee operates at the UN, will have an open agenda. The Council is charged with setting the agenda based on current issues of importance to the SC by means of a majority vote. Each delegate will be responsible for presenting two potential topics within their position papers that they will later defend before the SC to be considered as agenda items. These two topics should reflect the most important issues or crisis affecting your Member State. Additionally, these topics do not need to reflect the topics presented to the delegates in the three updates that you will be provided as the conference approaches. The three updates provided prior to conference are simply tools to inspire delegates to think about current events from an international lens.

The SC will operate independently of the other organs at SRMUN due to the possibility of a crisis scenario. Therefore, other UN organs represented at SRMUN will not refer items to the SC. The Secretary-General and the President of the SC are staff members and will not impact substantive debate, except when necessary. This leaves the agenda in the hands of the SC delegates and therefore should be prepared for a range of likely topics.

At the first committee session and after roll call, the President of the SC will open discussion of the agenda. Delegates may make formal speeches and utilize caucuses to discuss potential topics and negotiate how to proceed. After some discussion and negotiation, delegates may make motions to set the agenda. An example of such a motion is:

> *"The Delegate from Jordan moves for a discussion of the Situation in the Middle East."*

Note that the naming of the topic will affect the breadth of the topic. For instance, the issue of "Israeli practices concerning the human rights of the Palestinian people" is much narrower and more focused than "the situation in the Middle East."

There can be multiple motions for different agenda items, but each motion can only name one potential agenda item. Motions for agenda items will be voted on in the order in which they are received. The first motion to receive nine or more affirmative votes will become the agenda item. At the conclusion of discussion of that agenda item (either through voting or adjournment of the agenda item), the SC will again move back into a discussion of setting the agenda, and the process will proceed until the next agenda item passes by nine or more votes. Delegates may choose to negotiate more than one agenda item at a time, but they can only vote on one item at a time. For example, delegates may decide amongst themselves to discuss "The Situation Regarding Iran's Atomic Energy Program" and then "Children in Armed Conflict." However, only one agenda item may be adopted at a time. Thus, delegates would move to set the agenda as the first topic. Once the topic regarding Iran has been discussed and resolutions have been voted on or discussion on the topic has been adjourned, then the SC will move to discuss the agenda again, and delegates would have to move to discuss "Children in Armed Conflict."

II.   Voting

The SC will adhere to the voting rules set forward in the UN Charter. All votes (both procedural and substantive) in the Security Council require a minimum of nine affirmative votes to pass, as outlined in the UN Charter. For instance, a vote of eight in favor, with zero opposed and seven abstentions would fail. Substantive votes (draft resolutions, amendments, and the second vote on division of question) additionally require the "concurring votes" of the Permanent 5 (P5) members of the SC (China, France, Russia, UK, and US). The UN interprets that an abstention by a member of the P5 does not represent a veto. Therefore, for a resolution to pass, all members of the P5 must either vote yes or abstain, and the resolution must receive a minimum of nine affirmative votes. In both 2018 and 2019, the veto was utilized on three occasions, while 2010 and 2013 saw zero veto votes. and 2000, no vetoes were cast.[45, 46]

III.   Position Papers

Due to the open agenda of the SC, delegates will be asked to write position papers that are different from all other SRMUN committees. In the place of two topics in the Background Guide, delegates will be presented with three relevant topic updates in the weeks leading up to conference. These topic updates are intended to help prepare delegates with awareness of real-world events that may impact debate in committee. Please note that topics chosen by delegates do not need to reflect those topics presented in the Committee updates.

For their position papers, delegates should identify two issues related to international peace and security that best reflect the interests of their Member State. Position papers should present the significance of the two issues in the order in which their Member State wishes to see them addressed. For instance, the delegate for Chad may propose the following two topics in order: 1) UN Efforts to Remove Landmines; and 2) Eliminating the Small Arms trade in Africa, whereas the delegate for the United Kingdom may propose: 1) UN Participation in the Rebuilding of Iraq; and 2) Terrorism.

IV.   Crisis Background
Background

The UN Charter states that the SC should be able to function continuously, and that the SC is the primary UN organ for dealing with crises that could impact international peace and security. Delegates to the SC must be prepared to handle an international crisis at any time.

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[45] "Security Council - Quick Links: Veto List," United Nations Security Council,
       https://research.un.org/en/docs/sc/quick

[46] "Changing Patterns in the Use of the Veto in the Security Council." Global Policy Forum.
       http://www.globalpolicy.org/security/data/vetotab.htm

Addressing a crisis situation is often a piece of the work of the SC. If a crisis situation arises, the Secretariat will provide delegates with pertinent briefing materials and periodic updates. The Secretariat will also forward communications from the governments of SC Member States to their representatives, likely in the form of reports and communiqués. Other committees at SRMUN may or may not become involved; however, if such a situation arises, the SC will be notified. If other SRMUN committees are not involved, then SC delegates **SHOULD NOT** interfere with the work of delegates in other committees. It is up to SC delegates to decide a course of action to attempt to resolve a crisis. The primary tools for delegates to resolve a crisis are diplomacy and negotiation. Delegates should be prepared to represent the interests of their Member State in any potential crisis.

V.   Outside Parties
Background

The UN Charter gives the SC the option to invite non-Member States of the SC to participate, without vote, in discussions that affect the non-Member States.

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The resources of SRMUN are limited, so logistically, it may not be possible to honor all requests. If a potential crisis requires it, SRMUN may seek ways to accommodate such a request. To invite a non-Member State, delegates must first advise the committee Director and Assistant Director of the request. If it is cleared, a delegate should make a motion such as: "Under Article 32, the delegate from Argentina moves for the invitation of representatives from Cameroon to participate in a discussion of the agenda item under discussion." The motion requires a vote of nine in favor to pass.

VI.   The Double Veto
Background

When the UN was created, the ultimate decisions on whether a vote in the SC was procedural or substantive was left up to the SC itself. On rare occasions, P5 members are able to question whether an item is procedural or substantive. This motion which requires nine affirmative votes and a yay or abstention from each of the P5 members. For instance, a P5 member may challenge the SC President's ruling that an issue is procedural. The SC then has a substantive vote on whether the issue is procedural or not. The P5 member can veto this vote, making the issue substantive, then veto the original motion. This is known as the double veto. The double veto is rarely used.

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The SRMUN SC has limited meeting time, and the desire of the committee is to maximize the available time. The SC Director has the right to limit the use of the double veto on procedural issues that have minor impacts on debate such as suspension of the meeting and setting the speaker's time. However, procedural motions such as agenda setting or inviting a party to a dispute could be subject to a potential double veto.

To call for the double veto, a member of the P5 should raise their placard after a motion has been made, but before a vote has been taken and make the following motion:

"The delegate from the United Kingdom moves to declare this motion a procedural motion."

For Example:

"The Delegate from Romania moves for a discussion of the Use of Pre-Emptive Force."

The Delegate from the United Kingdom raises their placard in their left hand and is recognized:

"The Delegate from the United Kingdom moves to declare this motion a procedural motion."

Once the President accepts this motion, the SC moves to a substantive vote on whether or not the motion to set the agenda is procedural. A "yes" vote means that it is procedural; a "no" vote means that it is substantive. If the UK votes no, then the motion to set the agenda is considered substantive. At this point, the SC votes substantively on the motion to set the agenda. A no vote from any member of the P5 will veto the motion.

If you have any questions about these issues or any other SC related question, please do not hesitate to consult your Director, Assistant Director, the Director-General or Deputy Director-General.

The Double Veto

The Dais has ruled a vote procedural, and a member of the Committee does not agree. The delegate then raises their placard in their left hand to motion for a vote to challenge the procedural nature of the vote.

The Committee then votes on whether or not the vote is procedural.

If the vote receives nine or more "yeas" AND all of the P5 vote in the affirmative or abstain, the vote remains procedural and the Committee retakes the vote.

If the vote does not receive nine or more "yeas" AND an affirmative vote or abstention from all P5 members, the vote becomes substantive and the Committee retakes the vote as a substantive vote.